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Letter dated 8 January 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In the capacity of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as the Chair of the thirty-sixth session of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, I write to bring to your attention the following:

In reference to the Security Council's press elements on Yemen delivered on 5 January 2016, the countries of the Cooperation Council wish to reiterate their disappointment that the following points were not included and/or were not given sufficient consideration:

1. Call on all parties, in particular the Houthi militias and forces loyal to the former President Ali Abdullah Saleh and their allies, to fully implement the Security Council's relevant resolutions, including resolution 2216 (2015);

2. Call on the Houthi militias to immediately lift the siege on Ta'iz and ensure the delivery of urgently needed humanitarian aid and supplies into the city, including food, water and medicine, as well as stop the shelling of residential neighbourhoods;

3. Condemn the continued military hostilities violating the border of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia amounting to hundreds of daily shellings on the regions of Jazan and Najran;

4. Call for the safe release of all political prisoners and all individuals under house arrest and arbitrarily detained.

In the meantime, we want to reiterate that the coalition to restore legitimacy in Yemen is taking all measures to ensure the delivery of essential humanitarian assistance, food, medicine and vital supplies, as well as commercial goods, including fuel for civilian purposes, to all parts of Yemen and is fully cooperating with the relevant United Nations agencies and other humanitarian relief agencies. In the meantime, the Houthis and their allies continue their seizure of urgent humanitarian assistance, food, medicine and fuel and preventing their delivery to the Yemeni people.

The continued resort to violence by the Houthi militias and their allies since the beginning of the crisis in Yemen, and their refusal to return to legitimacy and abide by the relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 2216 (2015), including paragraphs 1, 6, 8, 9 and 12 thereof, have resulted in the

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catastrophic and deteriorating humanitarian situation in Yemen and further undermined the current political negotiations.

Against this backdrop, the coalition continues to reaffirm its support and appreciation for the efforts of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen, Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and circulated as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Abdallah Y. **Al-Mouallimi**
Permanent Representative